

### **REMARKS**

In view of the above amendments and following remarks, reconsideration of the rejections contained in the Office Action of December 14, 2005 is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 2, 17 and 20 were rejected as being anticipated by Griffin, U.S. 6,138,458. Claims 4, 7, 9, 11, 13-15 and 19 were rejected as being unpatentable over Griffin in view of VanSweden. Further, claim 18 was rejected as being unpatentable over Griffin in view of Nomura et al. However, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention, as now reflected by amended claims 17 and 20, clearly patentably distinguishes over Griffin and the secondary references.

Both claims 17 and 20 have been amended to recite that the second cylindrical member is slidably movable relative to one of the inner side and the outer side of the first cylindrical member and guided thereby.

In Griffin, one cylindrical member 56 carries coil 58, and a magnet 70 is mounted between back iron structures 68 and 72. However, no matter which "cylindrical member" of Griffin is chosen as corresponding to the second cylindrical member, it is clearly not slidably movable relative to one of the inner side and outer side of the first cylindrical member and guided thereby.

To reject claims 4, 7, 9, 11, 13-15 and 19, Griffin is combined with VanSweden. However, VanSweden is directed to a track laying vehicle. Griffin is directed to an electro-pneumatic actuator and servo-valve for use therewith, particularly as addressed to the problems encountered with using an electro-pneumatic actuator having high frequency response for example with complex optical structures such as large telescopes or lasers mounted in aircraft subject to vibrations caused by aircraft engines and air turbulence. Note the background of the invention of Griffin. Thus, while the Examiner considers it obvious to apply VanSweden to the "shock absorber" of Griffin to allow for lateral play and movement, there is no indication to one of ordinary skill in the art that such is necessary or appropriate with the type of system to which Griffin is directed. Further, there are additional differences set forth in claims 4, 7, 11, 13-15 and 19 that define over both Griffin and VanSweden.

The cited reference to Nomura et al. does not cure the above-discussed deficiency of Griffin, further. In claim 18, the second cylinder member is recited as being capable of performing rocking

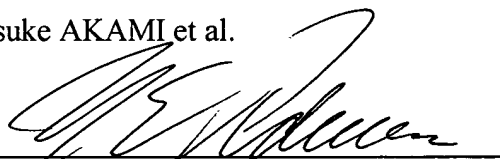
movement relative to the cylinder. Nomura et al., however, only teaches that a sensor 4 can move in a radial direction, and not the performance of rocking movement.

From the above, it is respectfully submitted to be clear that all of the claims as now amended clearly patentably distinguish over all of the references cited by the Examiner. Indication of such is respectfully requested.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and the Examiner is requested to pass the case to issue. If the Examiner should have any comments or suggestions to help speed the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

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